

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Seward****Project Title:****Project Type:** Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades

Seward - Mooring Dolphins and Dock Improvements at Seward Marine Center

State Funding Requested: \$1,500,000**House District: 35 / R**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Modifications to an existing dock in downtown Seward to accommodate the National Science Foundation and University of Alaska Fairbanks Alaska Region Research Vessel and other large ocean going marine vessels

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$2,000,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	Amount	FY	Amount	FY	Amount	FY
Federal Funds			\$500,000	2010		
Total			\$500,000			

*Explanation of Other Funds:**If Federal Funds are not received the City will provide the matching \$500,000 to complete the project***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This project will lengthen a dock and affix mooring structures to the ocean floor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Seward Marine Center (SMC) in the downtown waterfront area of Seward, Alaska. This is property and infrastructure owned by the City of Seward and leased long-term to the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The Seward Marine Center is the primary coastal facility of the UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences and the only university-owned marine station in Alaska and the northern-most university marine station in the United States.

The project will allow mooring and home-porting of the National Science Foundation and UAF Alaska Region Research Vessel at the Seward Marine Center. The project to lengthen the dock and affix mooring dolphins to the ocean floor is necessary to secure this 254-foot \$260,000,000 research vessel for Alaska for operation by the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The Alaska Region Research Vessel, recently named the R/V Sikuliaq, will be capable of bringing scientists to the ice-choked waters of Alaska and the polar region. When complete, the vessel will be one of the most advanced university research vessels in the world and will be able to break ice up to 2.5 feet thick. Currently under construction at Marinette Marine Corporation, a shipyard in Marinette, Wisconsin, the Sikuliaq will be ready for unrestricted science operations in 2014 and, as stated above, will be home ported in Alaska, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Seward Marine Center in Seward.

**\$1,500,000
Approved**

The vessel will be owned by the National Science Foundation and operated by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, as part of the U.S. academic research fleet. It will be used by scientists in the U.S. and international oceanographic community through the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System. The need for this vessel was first expressed by marine scientists in the U.S. in 1973. After 36 years of development and the consideration of multiple vessel designs, construction began on the ship in December 2009.

The Sikuliaq will allow researchers to collect sediment samples directly from the seafloor, host remotely operated vehicles, use a flexible suite of winches to raise and lower scientific equipment, and conduct surveys throughout the water column and sea bottom using an extensive set of research instrumentation. The ship will also be able to transmit real-time information directly to classrooms around the world. The vessel design strives to have the lowest possible environmental impact, including a low underwater radiated noise signature for marine mammal and fisheries work. The Sikuliaq will have accommodations for up to 26 scientists and students at a time, including those with disabilities.

The Research Vessel Sikuliaq will replace the more than 40-year old R/V Alpha Helix that is now retired and was owned by the National Science Foundation. In 2001, Congress appropriated \$1M for a design study. Sufficient ice strengthening will allow the Sikuliaq to work safely in moderate seasonal ice, operating over a longer period than formerly possible in the North Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska, and the Bering, Chukchi, and Beaufort Seas. The design is based on science mission requirements developed by the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System community. This technologically advanced platform will allow up to 26 scientists and students, per cruise, to conduct multi-disciplinary studies on these complex issues, and facilitate broadband real-time virtual participation of classroom students in expeditions, including remotely operated underwater vehicles.

This project of establishing a moorage capability in the downtown waterfront area of Seward will also encourage increased economic activity from numerous tourists, students, scientists, and business representatives. During those periods when the R/V Skuliaq is deployed on research voyages, ocean going vessels up to 260 feet in length would be capable of mooring in Seward's historic downtown area. Furthermore, the presence of the R/V Sikuliaq in Seward will enhance the research and economic synergy that exists between the Alaska SeaLife Center, Alutiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery, and the UAF School of Oceans and Fisheries Science.

Project Timeline:

Engineering and ordering of materials in FY 2010

Construction in FY 2011

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Seward

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Phillip Oates
 Address: 410 Adams Street
 Seward, AK 99664
 Phone Number: (907)224-4047
 Email: poates@cityofseward.net

Total Project Snapshot Report

FY 2011 Capital Budget

TPS Report 53584v1

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 2009-102**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD,
ALASKA, APPROVING THE CITY OF SEWARD'S CALENDAR YEAR
2010 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

WHEREAS, the City annually compiles a list of projects or issues that are identified as top state legislative priorities; and

WHEREAS, the list of projects is compiled and distributed to the Alaska Legislature in Juneau, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and the City of Seward lobbyist; and

WHEREAS, this prioritized list validates the projects and greatly focuses the efforts of the administration in our lobbying efforts; and

WHEREAS, all the projects on this list are consistent with the City's Comprehensive and Strategic Plans; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 Federal Economic Stimulus bill may make funding available from federal and state agencies or departments to complete various projects on this list of state legislative priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA, that:

Section 1. This list of legislative projects is hereby declared to be the official legislative priority list for the City of Seward for the 2010 State legislative session:

1. STATE FUNDED PROJECTS WITH LOCAL MATCH

A. PUBLIC FACILITIES

- (1) \$5 million grant for building the \$10 million Seward Library and Museum (local contributions and a general obligation bond will provide a 100% match of \$5 million to complete the project)
- (2) \$2 million for constructing a 100'x 80' metal building to house emergency response equipment, and shelter supplies at the Fort Raymond Satellite Fire Station (the City will provide a \$500 thousand match to complete the project)
- (3) \$2 million for expanding the Providence Seward Hospital Medical Clinic, moving the CT scanner into the facility, increasing backup generator capacity, and improving space for primary health care (the City provides \$500 thousand annually for these improvements)

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B. PORT AND HARBOR

- (1) \$1 million for inner-harbor improvements to repair and replace the “D” Floats in the Seward Small Boat Harbor (the City will provide \$500 thousand to complete the project)
- (2) \$1.5 million for establishing mooring dolphins and dock improvements at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Seward Marine Center in Seward (the City will provide \$500 thousand to complete the project)
- (3) \$150 thousand for constructing an ADA Boardwalk on the South Harbor Uplands of the Seward Small Boat Harbor (the City will provide \$50 thousand to this project)

C. ELECTRIC

- (1) \$5 million for completing the standby generator complex for the Seward Electric Utility as a match for \$6 million in City revenue bond funding (this project includes erecting a new generator plant building—already under construction—and designing and constructing a warehouse complex; automating generator controls through a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, and completing installation of 3 each 2.5 MW generators)
- (2) \$12 million for upgrading the transmission line to 115KV in Seward to reduce line loss while improving efficiency and reliability of power distribution (the City is providing \$6 million in revenue bond funding for improvements to the electric utility)
- (3) \$300 thousand for installing automatic electrical metering equipment to improve customer service, outage management, and load management (the City will provide a 100% match of \$300 thousand to complete the project)
- (4) \$85 thousand for establishing improvements to redundant capabilities for providing electrical power during emergencies, such as a tsunami, to the downtown and hospital area of Seward (the City will provide a 100% match of \$85 thousand for the project)

D. ROADS AND STREETS

- (1) \$750 thousand for improving and repairing streets, sidewalks, and roadway drainage (the City provided \$160 thousand in 2008 for these repairs)
- (2) \$250 thousand for paving and improving drainage in the northeast parking lot of the Seward Small Boat Harbor (the City has obtained a matching grant of approximately \$200 thousand for design and preparation of the area for paving)
- (3) \$35 million for purchasing and installing replacement Seward Highway Bridges for Ptarmigan Creek, Falls Creek, and Trail River

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2. ALASKA SEALIFE CENTER

- (1) \$450 thousand for refurbishing the saltwater intake system and relocating the freshwater pumping system at the Alaska SeaLife Center (these critical capital maintenance projects will help prevent closure of the facility and a catastrophic economic impact on Seward)
- (2) \$2.3 million for establishing an Anchorage SeaLife Center Learning Annex in partnership with the Port of Anchorage (operating costs will become the responsibility of the Alaska SeaLife Center)

3. CRUISE SHIP HEAD TAX

- (1) \$2 million for building a new water storage tank and distribution system that will establish the excess capacity that is necessary to provide water and improved fire protection to cruise ships (this funding will match approximately \$2.5 million from stimulus funding and low-interest loans)
- (2) \$3 million for constructing a security float system that will improve security and fire protection to cruise ships
- (3) \$300 thousand for relocating Seward's Coast Guard Building adjacent to the Cruise Ship Dock Area and improving security to cruise ships and their passengers
- (4) \$500 thousand for improving the cruise ship pedestrian corridor between the Alaska Railroad Terminal and Cruise Ship Terminal

4. STATE FUNDED PROJECTS

- (1) \$15 million in the DOT/PF Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program that will allow the City of Seward to obtain a \$1.465 million grant to complete construction of the "Z" Float by providing a match of \$1.465 million
- (2) \$155 thousand in the Department of Corrections Operating Budget to add an emergency wastewater bypass (with valving and piping for the bypass) that will keep the Spring Creek Correctional Facility sewage system operational in the event of a system failure
- (3) \$35.154 million funding for the Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) capital projects and the \$1.4464 million increase in their operating budget for FY10
- (4) \$1.5 million for establishing storm water discharge infrastructure that includes a security fence around the city vessel storage area at the Seward Marine Industrial Center (SMIC)
- (5) \$5 million from the Railbelt inter-tie funds for upgrading transmission lines between Anchorage and Seward

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- (6) \$2 million for controlling coastal erosion that threatens the Lowell Point Road (this road provides the sole land access to critical public infrastructure, state and federal parks, and a residential housing area)
- (7) \$860 thousand for building a Handicapped Accessibility Fish Cleaning Station in the Northeast Launch Ramp Area of the Seward Small Boat Harbor
- (8) \$450 thousand for paving the road and parking lot on the South Seward Small Boat Harbor Uplands area
- (9) \$1.7 million for doubling the capacity of the ship lift (synchrolift) and improving dock capabilities at SMIC
- (10) \$4.5 million for completing sheet piling and adding moorage along the north side of the Seward Small Boat Harbor
- (11) \$60 thousand for studying the feasibility of a hydro electric plant to produce renewable energy in Seward
- (12) \$1 million for accomplishing levee maintenance and bed load removal in the Fourth of July Creek and providing protecting the Spring Creek State prison
- (13) \$100 thousand for improving City ADA accessibility
- (14) \$68 thousand for purchasing and installing Energy Efficiency Boiler replacements in City owned infrastructure

5. BENEFICIAL LEGISLATION

- (1) The highest priority for beneficial legislation is a State of Alaska General Obligation Bond that includes \$16 million for extending the SMIC basin breakwater that will improve ship moorage, loading, and repair operations
- (2) \$100 thousand for repairing and upgrading the Alutiiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery for developing shellfish aquaculture in Alaska
- (3) \$13.8 million for the Friends of the Jesse Lee Home for stabilization of the Jesse Lee Home for a leadership charter school
- (4) Regulations permitting the use of a guaranteed cruise ship head tax revenue stream for bonding of capital projects that benefit the cruise ship industry
- (5) Appropriation for upgrading Seward Highway (MP18-25.5) in the STIP
- (6) Authorization for upgrading Seward Highway (MP 25.5-36) in the STIP
- (7) Authorization for upgrading the Sterling Highway (MP 45-60) in the STIP
- (8) Construction of a highway exit off the Seward Highway in the vicinity of MP 6 for better and safer vehicle access to Camelot and Salmon Creek subdivisions
- (9) Support for continuing Medicaid programs and capital cost reimbursement at not less than current year funding levels


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- (10) State funding for accomplishing the objectives of the library assistance Bill
- (11) Return of service to Seward by the State Ferry Tustumena
- (12) Alternative Energy Programs that encourage and fund participation by the City and its electrical utility customers
- (13) A rebate program for citizen purchases of energy efficient appliances (in concert with disposal of old appliances) to reduce electric usage

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Seward, Alaska, this 26th day of October, 2010.

THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA


Willard E. Dunham, Mayor

AYES: Valdatta, Smith, Bardarson, Shafer, Keil, Dunham

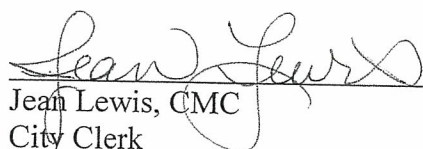
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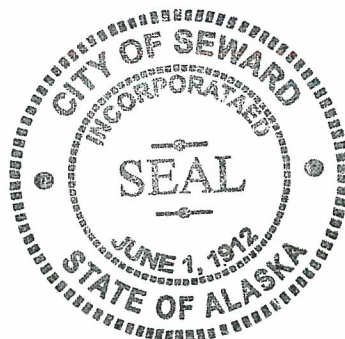
ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

VACANT: One

ATTEST:


Jean Lewis, CMC
City Clerk
(City Seal)



CITY OF SEWARD
P.O. BOX 167
SEWARD, ALASKA 99664-0167



- Main Office (907) 224-4050
- Police (907) 224-3338
- Harbor (907) 224-3138
- Fire (907) 224-3445
- City Clerk (907) 224-4046
- Community Development (907) 224-4049
- Utilities (907) 224-4050
- Fax (907) 224-4038

April 29, 2010

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor of the State of Alaska
Third Floor, State Capitol
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell,

We appreciate the magnitude of your responsibility to validate the appropriations and projects in the State Capital Budget. To assist your deliberation and decisions we have developed an information sheet to summarize essential facts about the appropriations and projects earmarked for Seward. Thank you for your time and consideration of our needs in Seward. We also thank you for your leadership as our Governor.

Yours sincerely,

Phillip E. Oates, DBA
City Manager of Seward

Willard Dunham
Mayor of Seward

Enclosure



City of Seward Projects in the State Capital Budget

(Information in support of Seward appropriations for projects in the State Capital Budget)

- **Mooring Dolphins and Dock Improvements at Seward Marine Center**
 - \$1,500,000 (Sec. 10, p. 102, lines 10-12, version “N”)
 - Local or Federal match of \$500,000 from TTHUD EDI Account
 - Home ports the \$260,000,000 NSF/UAF Alaska Region Research Vessel in Seward
 - Project key to bringing the nation’s premiere maritime research vessel to Alaska.
 - The Research Vessel (R/V Sikuliaq) is under construction with sea trials in 2012
 - Enhances research and economic synergy between UAF School of Oceans and Fisheries, Alaska Sealife Center, and Alutiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery.
 - Mooring capability in downtown waterfront area of Seward improves economy.
- **Community Library**
 - \$4,700,000 (Sec 10, p. 108 line 19, version “N”)
 - Local match of approximately \$5 million will complete the project
 - Fund raising to date in excess of \$1 million
 - Voters have already approved a City GO bond for the project
 - Project approved for funding by Alaska Library Association
 - Design currently 35% complete with 70% completion in 2010.
 - Land purchased, zoned, and platted for project
- **Alaska Sealife Center, Seawater Intake Pipelines Biofouling Remediation**
 - \$1,000,000 (Sec. 13, p. 116, lines 30-32, version “N”)
 - Biofouling has reduced the flow of the current 250 foot deep saltwater intake system to 40% of the original design capacity
 - Failure of the saltwater system threatens the very existence of the Center
 - No other funding sources are available
 - Repairs and a pigging system are fully designed that will eliminate current biofouling and prevent reoccurrence of the problem in the future
 - The Center is the largest private sector employer in Seward (85 year round jobs, 40 seasonal jobs, and 25 interns in science and education)
 - Since 1995 the Center has generated \$173 million in research and education funding for Alaska from Federal and private sources
- **Alutiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery Repairs and Upgrades**
 - \$150,000 (Sec. 13, p. 117, lines 24-26, version “N”)
 - These repairs and upgrades (marine water intake line, lighting system, and energy systems) will allow the hatchery to remain open in FY2011
 - The hatchery promotes international trade through exports of Alaska seafood seed and broodstock
 - Partial or full closure of the hatchery would significantly and negatively impact the economy of many seaside communities in Alaska
 - The hatchery produces shellfish seed and broodstock (including clam, oyster, king crab, and geoduck) for shellfish aquaculture across Alaska

City of Seward Projects in the State Capital Budget

continued

- **Commercial Passenger Vessel Harbor Security – Coast Guard Building Relocation**
 - \$300,000 Cruise Ship Head Tax Funds (Sec. 16, p. 149, line 22-25, version “N”)
 - This project improves security and immediate emergency response to cruise ships and their passengers by the Coast Guard in Seward
 - This relocates the current Coast Guard Building adjacent to the Cruise Ship Terminal and adjacent to a new security dock in the harbor
 - The Coast Guard is paying to move the building
 - The City of Seward will use these funds to prepare the new site, construct a building foundation, and design and install utility infrastructure (electric, water, sewer)
 - The Cruise Ship Industry and AKRR are supportive of this project
 - Land has been zoned and platted for the relocation
 - This project will be completed in the Fall of 2010
- **Security and Fire Protection for Commercial Passenger Vessels**
 - \$2,000,000 Cruise Ship Head Tax Funds (Sec. 16, p. 149, line 27-29, version “N”)
 - This is a security float system in the Seward Small Boat Harbor that will provide moorage and immediate deployment capabilities for the Coast Guard Cutter, Coast Guard Auxiliary Boat, City Fire Boat, Alaska State Trooper Boat and NOAA Boat
 - This project will improve security, immediate response, and fire protection to cruise ships and their passengers
 - Provides security features required by Homeland Security, not currently available at multi-use floats
 - Funding request was \$3 million but only \$2 million is in the State Capital Budget
 - The remaining \$1 million will come from local port of call cruise ship head taxes
 - A match of \$2.2 million is available to complete the total \$5.2 million project (Denali Commission and other funding already received)
 - Design is complete and floats have been purchased
 - The Cruise Ship Industry and AKRR are supportive of this project
 - With the \$2 million in the State Capital Budget, the project will be completed in the Fall of 2010

Notes:

1. Projects are listed in order of appearance in State Capital Budget.
2. All projects are community priorities that went through public review at the local level.
3. All projects are one-time need.